

WE CLAIM:

1. A nail enamel composition comprising, by weight of the total composition:

10-95% solvent, and

5-95% of a polymer having a glass transition temperature in the range of 5 to 90°

C., and containing about 2 to 29% by weight of the total polymer of at least one polar monomer.

2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the solvent is aqueous.

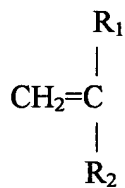
3. The composition of claim 1 wherein the comprises a non-aqueous solvent.

4. The composition of claim 3 wherein the non-aqueous solvent is an aliphatic or aromatic ketone; aliphatic or aromatic alcohol; glycol ether; ester, or mixtures thereof.

5. The composition of claim 1 wherein the film forming polymer the polar monomer is anionically or cationically charged.

6. The composition of claim 5 wherein the polar monomer is anionically charged.

7. The composition of claim 6 wherein the polar monomer has the general formula:



wherein R₁ is H, or a C₁₋₃₀ straight or branched chain alkyl, aryl, or aralkyl; and R₂ is COOM

wherein M is H; (CR₁)_nOH; (CH₂CH₂O)_nH, (CH₂)_nNR₁; where n is 1-100.

8. The composition of claim 7 wherein the polar monomer, R₁ is H or CH₃, and R₂ is COOM

wherein M is H.

9. The composition of claim 8 wherein the polar monomer is acrylic acid.

10. The composition of claim 1 further comprising 0.1-30% by weight of the total composition of pigment.

11. The composition of claim 1 further comprising 0.01-15% by weight of the total composition of a suspending agent.

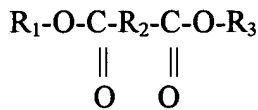
5 12. The composition of claim 11 wherein the suspending agent is a montmorillonite mineral or associative thickener.

13. The composition of claim 1 further comprising 0.01-10% by weight of the total composition of a silicone glycol copolymer defoaming agent.

14. The composition of claim 1 further comprising 0.1-35% by weight of the total composition of one or more plasticizers.

15. The composition of claim 14 wherein the plasticizer comprises a glyceryl, glycol, or citrate ester.

16. The composition of claim 14 wherein the plasticizers comprises a compound of the general formula:



20 wherein R₁, R₂, and R₃ are each independently a C₁₋₂₀ straight or branched chain alkyl or alkylene which may be substituted with one or more hydroxyl groups.

17. A two container kit for polishing nails comprising:

(a) a first container containing a nail enamel composition comprising, by weight of the total composition:

10-95% solvent, and

5-95% of a film forming polymer having a glass transition temperature in the range of 5 to 90° C. and containing 2 to 29% by weight of the total polymer of at least one polar monomer; and
(b) a second container containing a nail enamel topcoat composition comprising, by weight of the total topcoat composition:

5
Sub A2
1-99% solvent, and
1-99% of a film forming polymer.

18. The kit of claim 17 wherein the film forming polymer comprises a cellulosic based film former.

19. A method for polishing the nails comprising:

10
Sub A3
(a) applying to the nails a first composition comprising, by weight of the total composition:

10-95% solvent, and
5-95% of a film forming polymer having a glass transition temperature in the range of 5 to 90° C. and containing about 2 to 29% by weight of the total polymer of at least one polar monomer;

15
(b) applying to the nails a second composition comprising, by weight of the total composition:

1-99% solvent, and
1-99% of an film forming polymer.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the dried film formed by (a) and (b) resides on the nails for five to ten days.